

MET

cold into a solid body such as it was before, which is malleable under the hammer, and is of a bright, glossy, and glittering substance where newly cut or broken. The *metals* are six in number: 1. gold; 2. silver; 3. copper; 4. tin; 5. iron; and, 6. lead; of which gold is the heaviest, lead the second in weight, then silver, then copper, and iron is the lightest except tin; some have added mercury or quicksilver to the number of *metals*; but as it wants malleability, the criterion of *metals*, it is more properly ranked among the semi *metals*.

Metallists use a kind of terrace in their vessels for fining *metals*, that the melted *metal* run not out. *Moxon*.

2. Courage; spirit. In this sense it is more frequently written *mettle*. See *METTLER*.

Being glad to find their companions had so much *metal*, after a long debate the major part carried it. *Clarendon*.

3. Upon this signification the following ambiguity is founded. Both kinds of *metal* be prepar'd, Either to give blows or to ward; Courage and steel both of great force, Prepar'd for better or for worse. *Hudibras*, p. i.

METALÉPSIS. *n. f.* [*μετάληψις*, Fr. *metalepsis*] A continuation of a trope in one word through a succession of significations. *Bailey*.

METALLICAL. *adj.* [from *metallum*, Lat. *metallique*, French.] *METALLICK*. *adj.* Partaking of metal; containing metal; consisting of metal.

The ancients observing in that material a kind of *metallical* nature, or fusibility, seem to have resolved it to nobler use; an art now utterly lost. *Wotton's Architecture*.

The lofty lines abound with endless store Of min'ral treasure, and *metallick* ore. *Blackmore*.

METALLIFEROUS. *adj.* [*metallum* and *fero*, Latin.] Producing metals. *Dict.*

METALLINE. *adj.* [from *metal*.] 1. Impregnated with metal.

Metaline waters have virtual cold in them; put therefore wood or clay into smith's water, and try whether it will not harden. *Bacon's Nat. Hist.* N^o. 84.

2. Consisting of metal.

Though the quicksilver were brought to a very close and lovely *metalline* cylinder, not interrupted by interperfed bubbles, yet having caused the air to be again drawn out of the receiver, several little bubbles disclosed themselves. *Boyle*.

METALLIST. *n. f.* [from *metal*; *metalliste*, Fr.] A worker in metals; or skilled in metals.

Metallists use a kind of terrace in their vessels for fining metals, that the melted *metal* run not out; it is made of quick lime and ox blood. *Moxon's Mech. Exercit.*

METALLOGRAPHY. *n. f.* [*metallum* and *γραφω*, Fr.] An account or description of metals. *Dict.*

METALLURGIST. *n. f.* [*metallum* and *ργον*, Fr.] A worker in metals.

METALLURGY. *n. f.* [*metallum* and *ργον*, Fr.] The art of working metals, or separating them from their ore.

To *METAMORPHOSE*. *v. a.* [*metamorphose*, Fr. *μεταμορφώω*.] To change the form or shape of any thing.

Thou, Julia, thou hast *metamorphos'd* me; Made me neglect my studies, lose my time. *Shakespeare*.

They became degenerate and *metamorphos'd* like Nebuchadnezzar, who, though he had the face of a man, had the heart of a beast. *Davies on Ireland*.

The impossibility to conceive so great a prince and favourite so suddenly *metamorphos'd* into travellers, with no greater train, was enough to make any man unbelieve his five senses. *Wotton's Buckingham*.

From such rude principles our form began; And earth was *metamorphos'd* into man. *Dryden's Ovid*.

METAMORPHOSIS. *n. f.* [*metamorphose*, Fr. *μεταμορφώσις*.] 1. Transformation; change of shape.

His whole oration stood upon a short narration, what was the cause of this *metamorphosis*. *Sidney*.

Obscene talk is grown so common, that one would think we were fallen into an age of *metamorphosis*, and that the brutes did not only poetically but really speak. *Gov. Tongue*.

The fifteenth book is the master-piece of the whole *metamorphosis*. *Dryden*.

What! my noble colonel in *metamorphosis*! On what occasion are you transformed? *Dryden's Spanish Fryar*.

There are probable machines in epic poems, where the gods are no less actors than the men; but the less credible sort, such as *metamorphoses*, are far more rare. *Pope's Odyssey*.

2. It is applied, by *Harvey*, to the changes an animal undergoes, both in its formation and growth; and by several to the various shapes some insects in particular pass through, as the silk-worm, and the like. *Quincy*.

METAPHOR. *n. f.* [*metaphore*, Fr. *μετάφορα*.] The application of a word to an use to which, in its original import, it cannot be put: as, he *bridles* his anger; he *deadens* the sound; the spring *awakes* the flowers. A metaphor is a simile comprized in a word; the spring putting in action the powers of vegetation, which were torpid in the winter, as the powers of a sleeping animal are excited by awaking him.

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The work of tragedy is on the passions, and in a dialogue; both of them abhor strong metaphors, in which the epocœa delights. *Dryden's Ded. to Virgil's Æneid*.

METAPHORICAL. *adj.* [*metaphorique*, Fr. from *metaphor*.] *METAPHORICK*. *adj.* Not literal; not according to the primitive meaning of the word; figurative.

The words which were do continue; the only difference is, that whereas before they had a literal, they now have a metaphorical use. *Hooker*.

METAPHRASE. *n. f.* [*μετάφρασις*.] A mere verbal translation from one language into another.

This translation is not so loose as paraphrase, nor so close as *metaphrase*. *Dryden*.

METAPHRAST. *n. f.* [*metaphraste*, Fr. *μετάφραστής*.] On a translator; one who translates word for word from one language into another.

METAPHYSICAL. *adj.* 1. Veried in metaphysics; relating to metaphysics.

2. In *Shakespeare* it means supernatural or preternatural.

He thee hither, To chaffin with the valour of my tongue All that impedes thee from the golden round, Which fate, and metaphysical aid, doth seem To have crown'd thee withal. *Shakespeare, Macbeth*.

METAPHYSICK. *n. f.* [*metaphysique*, Fr. *μεταφυσική*.] On a metaphysick; or tology; the doctrine of the general affections of substances existing.

The mathematicks and the metaphysicks, Fall to them as you find your stomach serves you. *Shakespeare*.

Call her the metaphysicks of her sex, And say she tortures wits, as quarts vex Physicians. *Clarendon*.

If sight be caused by intromission, or receiving in, the form of contrary species should be received confusedly together, which how absurd it is, Aristotle shews in his metaphysics. *Peacham on Drawing*.

See physick beg the Stagyrite's defence! See metaphysick call for aid on sense! *Pope's Dunciad*.

The topics of ontology or metaphysick, are cause, effect, action, passion, identity, opposition, subject, adjunct, and sign. *Watt's Logic*.

METAPHYSIS. *n. f.* [*μετάφυσικος*.] Transformation; metamorphosis. *Dict.*

METAPLASMA. *n. f.* [*μεταπλασμα*.] A figure in rhetoric, wherein words or letters are transposed contrary to their natural order. *Dict.*

METASTASIS. *n. f.* [*μετάστασις*.] Translation or removal.

His disease was a dangerous asthma; the cause a *metastasis*, or translation of tartarous humours from his joints to his lungs. *Harvey on Consumption*.

METATARSAL. *adj.* [from *metatarsus*.] Belonging to the metatarsus.

The bones of the toes, and part only of the metatarsal bones, may be curious; in which case cut off only so much of the foot as is disordered. *Sharp's Surgery*.

METATARSUS. *n. f.* [*μετάταρσος*.] The middle of the foot, which is composed of five small bones connected to those of the first part of the foot. *Dict.*

The conjunction is called synarthrosis, as in the joining the tarsus to the metatarsus. *Wiseham's Surgery*.

METATHESIS. *n. f.* [*μετάθεσις*.] A transposition.

To *METE*. *v. a.* [*metior*, Latin.] To measure; to reduce to measure.

I will divide Shechem, and *mete* the valley of Succoth. *Psal.*

To measure any distance by a line, apply some known measure wherewith to *mete* it. *Halter*.

Though you many ways pursue To find their length, you'll never *mete* the true, But thus; take all that space the sun *Mete* out, when every daily round is run. *Greeth*.

METEWAND. *n. f.* [*metre* and *wand*, or *wand*.] A staff of a certain length wherewith measures are taken.

METERYARD. *n. f.* [*metre* and *yard*.] A true touchstone, a sure *meteward* lieth before their eyes. *Alcham's Schoolmaster*.

Ye shall do no unrighteousness in *meteward*, weight, or measure. *Lev. xix. 35*.

To *METEMPSYCHOSE*. *v. a.* [from *metempsychosis*.] To transmute from body to body. A word not received.

The souls of usurers after their death, Lucian affirms to be *metempsychos'd*, or translated into the bodies of asses, and there remain certain years, for poor men to take their pennyworth out of their bones. *Peacham on Blazoning*.

METEMPSYCHOSIS. *n. f.* [*μετεμψύχωσις*.] The transmigration of souls from body to body.

From the opinion of *metempsychosis*, or transmigration of the souls of men into the bodies of beasts, most suitable unto their human condition, after his death Orpheus the musician became a swan. *Brown's Vulgar Errors*, b. iii.

METEOR. *n. f.* [*meteora*, Fr. *μετεωρα*.] Any bodies in the air or sky that are of a flux and transitory nature. *Look'd*

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Look'd he or red, or pale, or sad, or merrily? What observation mad'st thou in this case, Of his heart's *metecors* titing in his face? *Shakespeare*.

She began to cast with herself from what coast this blazing star must rise upon the horizon of Ireland; for there had the like *metecor* strong influence before. *Bacon's Henry VII.*

These burning fits but *metecors* be, Whole matter in thee soon is spent: Thy beauty, and all parts which are in thee, Are an unchangeable firmament. *Dunne*.

Then flaming *metecor*, hung in air, were seen, And thunders rattled through a sky serene. *Dryden's Æneid*.

Why was I rais'd the *metecor* of the world, Hung in the skies, and blazing as I travell'd, Till all my fires were spent; and then cast downward To be trod out by Caesar? *Dryden's All for Love*.

O poet, thou hadst been discreeter, Hanging the monarch's hat so high, If thou hadst dubb'd thy star a *metecor*, Which did but blaze, and rove, and die. *Prior*.

METEOROLOGICAL. *adj.* [from *meteorology*.] Relating to the doctrine of meteors.

Many others are considerable in meteorological divinity. *Brown's Vulgar Errors*, b. vii.

Make disquisition whether these unusual lights be new-come guests, or old inhabitants in heaven, or meteorological impressions not transcending the upper region, or whether to be ranked among celestial bodies. *Howel's Vocal Forest*.

METEOROLOGIST. *n. f.* [from *meteorology*.] A man skilled in meteors, or studios of them.

The *meteorologist* observe, that amongst the four elements which are the ingredients of all sublunary creatures, there is a notable correspondence. *Howel's Vocal Forest*.

METEORLOGY. *n. f.* [*μετεωρολογία* and *λογία*.] The doctrine of meteors.

In animals we deny not a natural *meteorology*, or innate presentation of wind and weather. *Brown's Vulgar Errors*.

METEOROUS. *adj.* [from *metecor*.] Having the nature of a *metecor*.

From the o'er hill To their fixt station, all in bright array, The cherubin descended, on the ground Gliding *metecorous*, as ev'ning milt, Ris'n from a river. *Milton's Par. Lost*, b. xii.

METER. *n. f.* [from *meteo*.] A measurer; as, a coal-meter, a land-meter.

METHEGLIN. *n. f.* [*meddyglyn*, Welsh, from *medd* and *glyn*, glutinare ait Minshew, vel a meddyg medicus & llyn potus quia potus medicinalis.] Drink made of honey boiled with water and fermented.

White handed mistress, one sweet word with thee. —Honey, and milk, and sugar, there is three. —Nay then two treys; and if you grow so nice, *Metheglin*, wort, and malmsey. *Shakespeare*.

To allay the strength and hardness of the wine, And with old Bacchus new *metheglin* join. *Dryden*.

METHINKS, verb impersonal. [*me* and *thinks*.] This is imagined to be a Norman corruption, the French being apt to confound *me* and *I*. I think; it seems to me; methinks. See *MESSEMS*, which is more strictly grammatical, though less in use. *Methinks* was used even by those who used likewise *methinks*.

In all ages poets have been had in special reputation, and, *methinks*, not without great cause; for, besides their sweet inventions, and most witty lays, they have always used to set forth the praises of the good and virtuous. *Spenser on Ireland*.

If he choose out some expression which does not vitiate the sense, I suppose he may stretch his chain to such a latitude; but by innovation of thoughts, *methinks*, he breaks it. *Dryden*.

There is another circumstance, which, *methinks*, gives us a very high idea of the nature of the soul, in regard to what passes in dreams, that innumerable multitude and variety of ideas which then arise in her. *Addison's Spect.* N^o. 487.

Methinks already I your tears survey. *Pope*.

METHOD. *n. f.* [*methode*, Fr. *μέθοδος*.] *Method*, taken in the largest sense, implies the placing of several things, or performing several operations in such an order as is most convenient to attain some end. *Watts*.

To see wherein the harm which they feel consisteth, the seeds from which it springs, and the *method* of curing it, belongeth to a skill the study whereof is full of toil, and the practice beset with difficulties. *Hooker*, b. v.

If you will jest with me know my aspect, And fashion your demeanour to my looks, Or I will beat this *method* in your conscience. *Shakespeare*.

It will be in vain to talk to you concerning the *method* I think best to be observed in schools. *Lake on Education*.

Notwithstanding a faculty be born with us, there are several *methods* for cultivating and improving it, and without which it will be very uncertain. *Addison's Spect.* N^o. 409.

METHODICAL. *adj.* [*methodique*, Fr. from *method*.] Ranged or proceeding in due or just order.

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The observations follow one another without that *methodical* regularity requisite in a prose author. *Addison's Spect.*

He can take a body to pieces, and dispose of them where he pleases; to us, perhaps, not without the appearance of irretrievable confusion; but, with respect to his own knowledge, into the most regular and *methodical* repositories. *Rogers*.

Let me appear, great Sir, I pray, *Methodical* in what I say. *Addison's Resamoi.*

METHODICALLY. *adv.* [from *methodical*.] According to method and order.

All the rules of painting are *methodically*, concisely, and clearly delivered in this treatise. *Dryden's Duffresnoy*.

To begin *methodically*, I should enjoin you travel; for absence doth remove the cause, removing the object. *Snuckling*.

To *METHODISE*. *v. a.* [from *method*.] To regulate; to dispose in order.

Resolv'd his unripe vengeance to defer, The royal spy retir'd unseen, To brood in secret on his gather'd spleen, And *methodize* revenge. *Dryden's Boccaccio*.

The man who does not know how to *methodize* his thoughts, has always a barren superfluity of words; the fruit is lost amidst the exuberance of leaves. *Speator*, N^o. 476.

One who brings with him any observations which he has made in his reading of the poets, will find his own reflections *methodized* and explained, in the works of a good critic. *Addison's Spect.* N^o. 291.

Those rules of old discover'd, not devis'd, Are nature still, but nature *methodis'd*. *Pope*.

METHODIST. *n. f.* [from *method*.] 1. A physician who practices by theory.

Our warlike physicians, not only chemists but *methodists*, give it inwardly in several constitutions and distempers. *Boyle*.

2. One of a new kind of puritans lately arisen, so called from their profession to live by rules and in constant method.

METHOUGHT, the preterite of *methinks*. See *METHINKS* and *MESSEMS*. I thought; it appeared to me. I know not that any author has *methought*, though it is more grammatical, and deduced analogically from *methinks*.

Methought, a serpent eat my heart away, And you fat smiling at his cruel prey. *Shakespeare*.

Since I thought By pray'r th' offended deity t' appease; Kneel'd, and before him humbly'd all my heart. *Methought*, I saw him placable, and mild, Bending his ear: persuasion in me grew That I was heard with favour; peace return'd Home to my breast; and to my memory His promise, "That thy seed shall bruise our foe." *Milt.*

In these I found not what, *methought*, I wanted still. *Milton*.

Methought I stood on a wide river's bank, Which I must needs o'erpass, but knew not how. *Dryden*.

METONYMICAL. *adj.* [from *metonymy*.] Put by metonymy for something else.

METONYMICALLY. *adv.* [from *metonymy*.] By metonymy; not literally.

The disposition of the coloured body, as that modifies the light, may be called by the name of a colour *metonymically*, or efficiently; that is, in regard of its turning the light that rebounds from it, or passes through it, into this or that particular colour. *Boyle on Colours*.

METONYMY. *n. f.* [*metonymie*, Fr. *μετωνυμία*.] A rhetorical figure, by which one word is put for another, as the matter for the material; *he died by steel*, that is, by a sword. They differ only as cause and effect, which by a *metonymy* usual in all sorts of authors, are frequently put one for another. *Tillatson*.

METOPOSCOPY. *n. f.* [*metoposcopia*, Fr. *μετωπιασμος* and *σκοπια*.] The study of physiognomy; the art of knowing the characters of men by the countenance.

METRE. *n. f.* [*metrum*, Latin; *μετρον*.] Speech confined to a certain number and harmonick disposition of syllables; verse; measure; numbers.

For the *metre* sake, some words be driven awry which require a straighter placing in plain prose. *Alcham's Schoolmaster*.

He taught his Romans in much better *metre*, To laugh at fools. *Pope*.

METRICAL. *adj.* [*metricus*, Latin; *metrique*, Fr.] Pertaining to metre or numbers.

METROPOLIS. *n. f.* [*metropolis*, Latin; *μετροπολις*, French; *metropoli*, Italian.] The mother city; the chief city of any country or district.

His eye discovers unaware The goodly prospect of some foreign land, First seen: or some renown'd *metropolis*, With glittering spires and pinnacles adorn'd. *Milton*.

Reduc'd in careful watch Round their *metropolis*. *Milton's Par. Lost*, b. x.

We stopped at Favia, that was once the *metropolis* of a kingdom, but at present a poor town. *Addison on Italy*.

METROPOLITAN.